

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 2, 5, 6, 9, and 11.

Amend claims 1, 3, 4, 7-10, and 15 as follows:

- Sub
G, C, K
BZ
1. (Twice amended) A method for producing on [manufacturing] a magnetic tape[, comprising
providing a spool of magnetic tape] having a magnetic recording side and a non-recording side opposite the recording side, a plurality of servo tracks capable of being optically detected independently from one another, the method comprising
[unwinding the spool to pass] passing at least a portion of the magnetic tape through a work area, [and]
providing a beam pattern of a plurality of intensity- modulatable optical beams,
directing the beam pattern on the non-recording side of the magnetic tape,
and
marking on the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape as the tape passes through the work area [to form an] the plurality of optically detectable servo tracks [marked plurality of servo tracks pattern thereon].
- BZ Sub
C, K
3. (Twice amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein [marking the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape includes forming] a servo track comprises a plurality of discrete optically independently detectable longitudinally spaced marks.
- mp
4. (Twice amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein [marking the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape, includes] the plurality of the servo tracks are arranged in [forming] the form of spaced apart multiple bands [on

B2 would be

the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape], each band comprising [a plurality of] multiple servo tracks.

B3 Sub 1/3

7. (Twice amended) The method according to claim [6] 1, wherein [exposing the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape to a source of radiation includes directing] the optical beam pattern is produced by a laser [on to the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape].

8. (Twice amended) The method according to claim [6] 7, wherein [exposing the non-recording side of the portion of magnetic tape to a source of radiation] modulating the optical beams includes pulsing [a] the laser to provide an intermittent source of radiation and thereby forming the plurality of servo [pattern] tracks in discrete sections.

B4 Sub 1/4

10. (Twice amended) The method according to claim [6] 60, [including the further act of disposing] wherein a second flat surface substantially perpendicular to the first surface guides [adjacent] the portion of tape passing through the work area to stabilize the tape by reducing transverse motion of the tape.

B5 Sub 1/5

15. (Once amended) The method according to claim 1, including the step of optically verifying a characteristic of the optically detectable servo [track] tracks for controlling a marking quality of the servo tracks [track marked on the magnetic tape].

Add new claim 58-62:

B6 Sub 1/6

58. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of optical beams is formed by optically beam-splitting a single laser beam emitted by a laser.

59. (New) The method according to claim 58, wherein the servo tracks are formed by passing the single laser beam through a first beam splitter to form a first band pattern defining the spaced apart multiple bands, and